

Oregon Housing and Community Services

2023-35 Agency Requests: Homelessness



OHCS is requesting over \$170 million to bring people in from the streets, provide critical services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness, and prevent homelessness before it begins, including:

- \$71.4 million to fund shelters, navigation centers, Project Turnkey operations, improve data within homeless services systems, and more
- \$60.3 million to keep Oregonians in their homes with housing retention resources
- \$39 million to expand long-term rental assistance for youth

These funds would be the Current Service Level, allowing providers to have confidence, so they staff up to build their capacity and meet the need for these critical services now and into the future.

Supporting Oregonians Experiencing Homelessness

Oregonians across the state are demanding action to address the living conditions of our unhoused neighbors. Shelter, in and of itself, cannot end homelessness. However, it is necessary to keep Oregonians alive, protected from extreme weather, and engaged in vital services to help them access stable housing.

\$71.4 Million, General Fund, requested Current Service Level | Shelter for Oregonians & Data (HMIS) Improvement (POP 106)

This package would extend critical investments made by the Legislature to make permanent much-needed resources for homelessness response. This includes operational support for Project Turnkey sites and navigation centers, additional shelter funding with an explicit call out to work with culturally specific organizations and Tribal Nations, and other supports to assist Oregonians in shelters to successfully find stable housing. This proposed investment would also increase the number of shelters and service providers utilizing the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), allow OHCS to provide additional support to HMIS users, and strengthen Oregon's reporting capabilities by providing resources for continued implementation, additional licenses, and increased staffing.

Investment highlight: Eight Navigation Centers across Oregon are opening to provide critical services, including behavioral health supports, to unhoused community members. Ongoing funding will be critical to ensure these services are long-lasting and reliable in communities across the state.

Pictured: Lane County Navigation Center Opening in August 2022



Preventing Homelessness in Oregon

Oregon must continue to invest in compassionate solutions that keep Oregonians stably housed before they experience homelessness. These much-needed resources are in addition to the Emergency Housing Account funds that receive approximately \$50 million a biennium.

\$60.3 Million, General Fund, requested Current Service Level | Keeping Oregonians in their Homes (POP 110)

This investment will extend the 2021 Special Session and 2022 Short Session one-time investments to build a more robust housing retention system that ensures Oregonians remain stably housed. OHCS' proposed investments include:

- Local rental assistance and eviction prevention funds through the Oregon Eviction Diversion and Prevention Program (OREDAP)
- Legal services
- Mediation services
- Support for culturally responsive organizations
- Other investments

\$39 Million, General Fund, requested Current Service Level | Long Term Youth Rental Assistance (POP 115)

Extend and expand on the 2021 House Bill 2163 program and establish a long-term statewide rental assistance program supporting individuals younger than 25-years old who are transitioning out of foster care, homelessness, behavioral health or treatment facilities, corrections, or detention facilities. The program is being introduced in three areas of the state, including one urban area, one rural area, and one coastal area.

Legislative Concept: Placeholder for Homelessness Recommendations (LC 562)

OHCS plans to introduce a placeholder bill to advance forthcoming recommendations from the Taskforce on Homelessness and Racial Disparities and/or the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Recommendations from these bodies come after legislative deadlines. Thus, this placeholder will be introduced with a broad "relating to homelessness" clause that would allow amendments, should there be statutory recommendations, to the bill during the 2023 Legislative Session.

Want to know more about our full Agency Request Budget? Review [OHCS' 2023 DRAFT Legislative Agenda memo](#) or visit the [OHCS Government Relations website](#).